Sl. No.	Yard	No. of vessels	Category of vessels
			One-Landing Ferry. Four-Passenger vessels. One-Fire Float. One-Grab Hopper Dredger. Two-Mooring Boats. Two-Light vessels. One-Light House Tender vessel.

(e) Permission for placement of orders with foreign shipyards is given for the following reasons :—

(1) Inadequate indigenous capacity of Indian yards;

(2) Long delivery period of Indian yards;

(3) High capital costs;

(4) Lack of capability to build large ships above 75-85,000 DWT which are required for the Indian fleet;

(5) Lack of adequate level of technical knowhow and expertise for building of specialised ships such as Ammonia Carriers, Ethylene Carriers, Hovercrafts, Cellular Container vessels etc.

Construction of Aircraft Carrier at Cochin Shipyard

4194. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the capacity and lay out of the Cochin Shipyard has been studied for the construction of an aircraft carrier;

(b) if so, whether the Cochin Shipyard will be used for the construction and repair of warships inclusing the aircraft carrier; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No decision has as yet been taken to construct a new aircraft carrier. The facilities available at the Cochin Shipyard are, however, being utilised by the Navy for carrying out repairs/refits of warships, including INS Viraat.

Charge Chrome Units

4195. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Charge Chrome units in the country despite their full capacity utilisation and being export-oriented are unable to compete in the international markets;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of assistance given or proposed to be given by the Government to the Charge Chrome units to boost the export of Charge Chrome ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Steep fall in international